

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04501 110855Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07  
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-01 MCT-01  
/141 W

-----068546 111429Z /45

R 110815Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8281  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 04501

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, IR, SA, IZ  
SUBJ: IRANIAN SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS ON REGIONAL  
COOPERATION

1. IRANIAN PRESS MAY 8TH REPORTED ANSWER GIVEN BY INFORMA-  
TION MINISTER HOMAYOUN DURING INFORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE  
COUPLE DAYS EARLIER TO QUESTION OF WHAT COOPERATION IF ANY  
EXISTED AMONG IRAN, IRAQ AND SAUDI ARABIA ON SECURITY OF  
OIL INSTALLATIONS AGAINST SABOTAGE. HOMAYOUN SAID THESE  
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THREE COUNTRIES WERE NOT ONLY COUNTRIES INTERESTED  
IN SUCH SECURITY. A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE  
AREA WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED. THE IDEA OF COOPERATION  
AMONG CONCERNED COUNTRIES WAS STILL IN ITS EMBRYONIC  
STAGE AND NEEDED MUCH TIME TO SOLIDIFY. THE AIM  
OF SUCH A COMMON DEFENSE SYSTEM WOULD BE TO  
FACE UP TO TERRORISM AND SUBVERSIVE ACTS. IRAN IS

ENCOURAGING ALL COUNTRIES IN THE AREA TO BE ACTIVE ON THIS SCORE, AND IT WOULD APPEAR THIS ENCOURAGEMENT HAS NOT BEEN WITHOUT SOME EFFECT. HE REPEATED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COUNTRIES POTENTIALLY INTERESTED COULD REACH 11 OR 12 BUT THAT IDEA REQUIRES TIME AND ITS FINAL FORM IS NOT CLEAR YET.

2. BELIEVE THIS WAS SOURCE OF REPORT PICKED UP BY EMBASSY JIDDA (JIDDA 3445 NOTAL).

3. POLCOUNS ASKED MFA DEPARTMENT HEAD DAVOUDI ABOUT THIS STATEMENT IN COURSE OF CALL MADE MAY 10 WITH VISITING EMBOFFS FROM BAGHDAD AND KUWAIT. AFTER CHECKING SEVERAL FARSI VERSIONS OF THE STORY, DAVOUDI REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NOTHING NEW INVOLVED. ASKED IF REGIONAL COOPERATION EXISTED IN THIS FIELD, HOMAYOUN HAD REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THRUST OF DAVOUDI'S REMARKS WAS NOT TO MAKE TOO MUCH OF THIS STORY EVEN THOUGH HE DID NOT DENY SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING SAUDI ARABIANS DURING PRINCE SULTAN'S RECENT VISIT AND PROBABLY WILL BE DISCUSSED AGAIN WHEN PRINCE FAH'D COMES SOON. HE ADDED THAT RECENT EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN MAY IMPROVE CHANCES FOR GREATER COOPERATION OF THIS SORT.

4. COMMENT: BY DOWNPLAYING REPORT AND DENYING ANY FORMAL PIECE OF PAPER IS INVOLVED, DAVOUDI SUGGESTING CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS IS TOPIC BEING DISCUSSED IN VERY GENERAL FIRST PHASES AS YET. PROTECTION FROM OIL-FIELD SABOTAGE IS NARROW ENOUGH SUBJECT THAT CAN BE DEALT WITH SEPARATELY FROM LARGER PERSIAN GULF SECURITY ISSUE. THEREFORE, IT IS AT LEAST CONCEIVABLE THAT IRAQIS MIGHT BE MORE AMENABLE ON THIS THAN ON BROADER ISSUE. ON THE OTHER HAND, COOPERATION ON NARROWER STEPS WOULD CERTAINLY BE REGARDED BY IRAN-AND PROBABLY BY THE OTHERS TOO-AS STEPPING-STONE TO A LARGER AGREEMENT. QUESTION WOULD SEEM TO REVOLVE AROUND WHAT PRACTICAL MEASURES IRAN CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE ON, BALANCED AGAINST DEGREE OF POLITICAL RISK INVOLVED IN ANY FORMAL ARRANGEMENT UNDERTAKEN BY AN ARAB GOVERNMENT WITH IRAN.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN



## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, PRESS CONFERENCES, OIL FIELDS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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